



Montana Crop & Livestock Reporter

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture

Issue: 11-10 Released: May 13, 2011

In this Issue...

May 1 Potato Stocks
Winter Wheat Production
Hay Stocks

Montana and U.S. May 1 Potato Stocks

Montana potato producers held 500,000 cwt in storage on May 1, 2011, which is 14 percent of the 2010 Montana potato crop. Last year at this time, producers held 700,000 cwt in storage, which was 21 percent of the 2009 potato crop.

The 13 major potato States held 65.7 million cwt of potatoes in storage May 1, 2011, down 27 percent from a year ago. Potatoes in storage accounted for 19 percent of the 2010 fall storage States' production, four percentage points below May 1, 2010. Klamath Basin stocks totaled 520 thousand cwt on May 1, 2011, down 32 percent from a year ago. Klamath Basin stocks include potatoes stored in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Potato disappearance, at 286 million cwt, was 3 percent below May 1, 2010. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 22.1 million cwt, was down 17 percent from the same date in 2010. Processors in the 9 major States have used 144 million cwt of potatoes this season, up 1 percent from the same period last year. Dehydrating usage accounted for 22.7

million cwt of the total processing, down 15 percent from last year.

May 1, 2011 Winter Wheat Production Forecast and Hay Stocks

Based on May 1 conditions, Montana winter wheat producers expect a yield of 44 bushels per acre, 4 bushels below last year's final yield. Total production is expected to be 94.6 million bushels, up 1 percent from last year's 93.6 million bushels. In the fall of 2010, Montana producers seeded 2.3 million acres of winter wheat, up 250,000 acres from the previous year. Producers expect to harvest 2.15 million acres, 200,000 acres above 2010.

As of May 8, Montana's winter wheat crop condition was rated slightly above a year ago with 1 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 13 percent excellent, compared with 1 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 12 percent excellent last year. Warmer weather is needed this spring for crop development as 1 percent of the acreage has reached the boot stage compared with 4 percent last year.

On May 1, Montana hay producers stored 1,300,000 tons of hay on hand,

compared with 720,000 tons on hand a year ago. Hay production for 2010 was 6.1 million tons, 28 percent higher than 2009 production. Disappearance from December 1, 2010 to May 1, 2011 is a record 4.2 million tons, up 24 percent from the same period a year earlier.

United States winter wheat production is forecast at 1.42 billion bushels, down 4 percent from 2010. Based on May 1 conditions, yield is forecast at 44.5 bushels per acre, down 2.3 bushels from the previous year. Expected grain area totals 32.0 million acres, up 1 percent from last year. As of May 1, 34 percent of the United States winter wheat crop was rated in good to excellent condition, 34 points below the same week in 2010. Heading reached 33 percent in the 18 major producing States, 4 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average.

All hay stored on U.S. farms May 1, 2011 totaled 22.2 million tons, up 6 percent from a year ago. Disappearance from December 1, 2010-May 1, 2011 totaled 79.9 million tons, compared with 86.3 million tons for the same period a year ago. Compared with last year, hay stocks increased across much of the Nation's midsection. In many cases, these increases are attributed to an increase in total hay production in 2010.

COMING IN THE NEXT REPORTER

Ag Prices Received
Red Meat Production

Steve Anderson, Director
Eric Sommer, Deputy Director
Wendy Bruski, Statistical Info Assistant
10 W 15th Street, Helena, MT 59626
406-441-1240 or 1-800-835-2612
www.nass.usda.gov/mt/ nass-mt@nass.usda.gov